

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Managing California's Working Lands

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

801 K STREET • MS 24-07 • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

PHONE 916 / 323-1886 • FAX 916 / 323-1887 • TDD 916 / 324-2555 • WEB SITE conservation.ca.gov

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Contact:

Ed Wilson Don Drysdale

Carrie Reinsimar

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JIM POMPY APPOINTED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CALIFORNIA'S OFFICE OF MINE RECLAMATION

SACRAMENTO – Jim Pompy has been named Assistant Director in charge of the Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR) for the California Department of Conservation (DOC). Pompy has 25 years of mining-related experience, working both in the industry and as a regulator.

"Jim brings a wealth of mining and natural resources experience and an incredible knowledge of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA)," said Acting Director Derek Chernow. "He also provides solid continuity, leadership skills, and a desire to train OMR staff and stakeholders."

OMR was created in 1991 to administer SMARA, California's mining law. OMR provides information, advice and assistance to local governments, state agencies and mine operators for reclamation planning and promotes cost-effective reclamation. OMR also oversees lead agency performance in administering SMARA and has the ability to take enforcement action when local enforcement is inadequate.

Pompy joined the DOC in 1986 as a Senior Mining Engineer. In 1996, he became an Environmental Program Manager, supervising scientists and other professionals working on matters related to the California Environmental Quality Act and SMARA. Most recently, Pompy led OMR's Reclamation Unit.

Before joining state service, Pompy held several positions in the mining industry. He has an undergraduate degree in biology and master's degrees in mining engineering and business administration.

"I intend to focus on stronger working relationships with industry, SMARA enforcement and developing my staff," Pompy said of his goals in his new role.

In addition to ensuring the reclamation of land used for mining, DOC studies and maps mineral resources and geologic phenomena; regulates oil, gas and geothermal wells; and administers agricultural and open-space land conservation programs. More information about DOC programs is available at www.conservation.ca.gov.

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